

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 142096

14

ORIGIN CEQ-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EPA-04 SCI-06 NSF-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 EB-11 COA-02 AEC-11

HUD-02 INT-08 HEW-08 DOTE-00 CG-00 COME-00 AGR-20

TRSE-00 /185 R

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EUR/SES:MR PARDON

EPA/AI:MR GREEN/MR MANSFIELD

EPA/AR:MR BUCKELY/DR SCHOEN

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R 192132Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UR, OTRA

SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT

1. EMBASSY WILL RECALL HISTORY OF US ATTEMPTS HAVE US
PRESS IN MOSCOW REPRESENTED ON FIELD TRIPS BY DELEGATIONS
UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, AND PROGRESS MADE IN MARCH
(DURING AIR POLLUTION TEAM VISIT) THANKS TO EMBASSY'S
PERSISTENT INTERVENTION. DURING DR. IZRAEL'S RECENT
VISIT, CHAIRMAN TRAIN THANKED HIM FOR HYDROMET'S EFFORTS,
AND SAID WE WOULD COUNT ON CONTINUING HYDROMET HELP IN
LETTING US PRESS TRAVEL WITH US GROUPS. DR. IZRAEL SAID
HYDROMET WOULD DO WHAT IT COULD, BUT US SIDE MUST RECOGNIZE
THAT FINAL AUTHORITY IS WITH MFA, SO WE HAD TO SEEK
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PAGE 02 STATE 142096

FORMAL PERMISSION THROUGH THAT CHANNEL. TRAIN SAID AFTER

HIS OWN EXPERIENCE IN USSR LAST FALL, HE FELT SURE THAT PRESS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY KEEN TO COVER AUGUST VISIT TO LAKE BAIKAL BY DR. BUCKELY'S WATER POLLUTION SUB-GROUP. DR. IZRAEL SAID HE THOUGHT US WISHES COULD BE MET, BUT DID URGE FORMAL REQUEST THROUGH MFA AS WELL AS HYDROMET.

2. PROGRAM PRESENTED BY IZRAEL FOR BUCKELY VISIT TO BAIKAL (POUCHED TO DR. TECH) CALLS FOR AUG 13-15 MOSCOW, AUG 17-19 IRKUTSK AND BAIKALSK; AUG 20-22 TRIP ON LAKE BAIKAL ON BOAT; AUG 23 VISIT BAIKAL BIOLOGICAL STATION

OF IRKUTSK UNIVERSITY; AUG 24 VISIT LIMNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE. IZRAEL STRESSED THAT BOTH, THE VERESHCHAGIN, COULD ONLY HANDLE SIX AMERICANS IN ADDITION TO TO SOVIETS. ALTHOUGH CEQ AND EPA CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY OF CUTTING BACK US DEL IN ORDER MAKE ROOM FOR JOURNALIST ABOARD, WE DOUBTED SOVIETS WOULD AGREE, AND PROJECT CHAIRMAN, DR. BUCKLEY, THOUGHT COMPLEXITY AND DIVERSITY OF TOPICS TO BE COVERED MADE IT MANDATORY TO HAVE SIX SPECIALISTS. (INCIDENTIALLY, BUCKLEY DISCUSSED WITH IZRAEL DESIRABILITY OF BRINING MONITORING EQUIPMENT TO MAKE FIELD MEASUREMENTS. IZRAEL AGREED IN PRINCIPLE CONDITIONAL UPON DESCRIPTION OF INSTRUMENTS AND MEASUREMENTS PROPOSED. THIS INFO WILL BE SENT SHORTLY FOR TRANSMITTAL TO IZRAEL AND ZENIN).

3. IT APPEARS THAT EVEN IF US JOURNALIST UNABLE ACCOMPANY GROUP ON BOARD RESEARCH VESSEL AUG 20-22, HIS PARTICIPATION IN REMAINDER OF PROGRAM IN IRKUTSK AND BAIKAL AUG 17-19 AND 23-24 WOULD MAKE TRIP WELL WORTHWHILE. WHILE JOURNALIST COULD NOT SIT IN ON ALL SESSIONS OF WORKING GROUP, HE COULD PRESUMABLY COVER FIELD TRIPS, IF SOVIET PERMISSION GIVEN. FYI WE ASSUME NEWS OF OPENING OF NEW PULP PLANT ON SELENGA RIVER FEEDING INTO BAIKAL WILL INCREASE SOVIET NERVOUSNESS ABOUT PUBLIC EXPOSURE ON BAIKAL ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION, AND MAY MAKE SOVIET PERMISSION FOR JOURNALIST TO ACCOMPANY GROUP IMPOSSIBLE TO GET. WE FEEL THAT SOVIETS HAVE CLEAR OBLIGATION NOW TO SHOW US THE FACTS ABOUT BAIKAL, INCLUDING FACTS ABOUT NEW PULP PLANT, AND WE THINK ISSUE OF PRESS COVERAGE SHOULD BE PUSHED EVEN HARDER THAN BEFORE. END FYI.

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PAGE 03 STATE 142096

4. EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT TWO OTHER UPCOMING US VISIT MAY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR PRESS COVERAGE. THESE ARE THE TWO GROUPS ON MARINE OIL POLLUTION, FIRST ON OIL SPILLS LED BY CAPTAIN SIDNEY WALLACE OF COAST GUARD TO VISIT AUG 19-SEPT 2 (ITINERARY INCLUDES ODESSA, TUAPSE, NOVOROSSISK), SECOND ON MARINE POLLUTION FROM OIL INDUSTRY LED BY DR. JAMES BALSLEY OF US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY SEPT

15-25 (ITINERARY INCLUDES BAKU, UFA, OKYABRISKII).
BOTH INCLUDE TIME ON SHIPS, AND FOR THIS REASON SOVIETS
DESIRE HOLD EACH TO SIX MEN, WHILE BOTH US CHAIRMEN ARE
ASKING TO BRING EIGHT. AS IN BUCKLEY VISIT, SOLUTION
MAY BE FOR JOURNALISTS TO COVER SHORE PORTION AND ACCEPT
FACT THAT SPACE LIMITATION PRECLUDES GOING ON SHIP PORTION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WHEN IT CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE,
EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO MAKE FORMAL REQUEST THROUGH
MFA AND HYDROMET FOR PRESS COVERAGE OF THESE VISITS. RUSH

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